



MATWATCH

16 Robin Hood Lane Jackson TN 38305

Hotline - 901-664-9246



VOL. 4, NO. 17

APRIL 29-MAY 5

Saturday Night Fans' Jam

HERD: SID GETS EARLY RELEASE; DUSTY "WILL NOT WRESTLE"

ST. LOUIS----Sid Vicious will be given an early release from his World Championship Wrestling contract to "do whatever Sid wants to do," WCW executive vice president Jim Herd said during THE GREAT AMERICAN FANS JAM II Saturday night on THE WRESTLING HOTLINE. Herd added that contrary to rampant rumors, Dusty Rhodes will not return to the ring as an active wrestler.

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

WCW MAKES L.A. DEBUT ON KCAL

LOS ANGELES---WORLD WIDE WRESTLING made its Los Angeles debut Saturday on Walt Disney Co.-owned independent KCAL-TV at 10 a.m.

The deal, closed last Tuesday, ends more than 18 months of negotiations with major L.A. stations for the WCW syndicated program.

WCW lost an overnight time slot for the formerly-named NWA MAIN EVENT on KNBC last fall and had been relegated to a weak indie station in Anaheim.

CORNETTE SOUNDS OFF ON WVEU APPEARANCE

ATLANTA---Former WCW manager and commentator Jim Cornette took his case of the story of his and Stan Lane's departures from the circuit to TV viewers April 19 on WVEU-TV's SATURDAY NIGHT SUPERSTARS.

When asked by host Boni Blackstone about an earlier WCW MAIN EVENT where hints were made of Cornette being connected with Bobby Eaton's mystery partner (ultimately Tom Zenk), Cornette responded, "No matter what you hear, the TBS executives are the ones who decided to sully the reputation of the Midnight Express. The guys in suits run the whole promotion. We weren't going to let them continue to put us on the first match at the Omni when we wrote the book on tag team wrestling."

Cornette said he had no intention of returning to WCW, despite an effort as late as two weeks ago to bring him back. More on the Cornette situation on page 2.

WRESTLING OBSERVER editor Dave Meltzer, PRO WRESTLING TORCH's Wade Keller and MATWATCH publisher Steve Beverly joined host Lance Russell and Herd for the live 90-minute telephone program featuring fan calls in the final hour.

On the loss of Vicious to Titan Sports, Herd acknowledged: "To be absolutely frank with you, we believe it's a setback. We had just started bridging his personality quotient. We don't really know how big it is and whether it will be a sustaining one." Vicious was under contract with WCW through September. "I'd be less than honest if I didn't say we wanted him. We did try very hard to keep him. But I don't think there was anything to change his mind after he was offered WRESTLEMANIA VIII with Hulk Hogan. That is one of the leverages they have over us at this particular time in history. We'll have to wait and see how long they will prevail."

Herd said WCW is working to change future contracts to prevent a repeat of the Vicious situation. Vicious had agreed to stay with WCW for an offer that, with bonuses, was said to reach \$500,000-a-year, then reneged a week later.

Asked why he would agree to a "goodwill gesture" of letting Vicious out of his deal before its September expiration, Herd replied: "I don't think it's a goodwill gesture. I don't think it's humanitarian. I think for the piece of mind of our guys who are still here and have been loyal to us, we don't need a Sid Vicious around in our dressing rooms and I think---I wouldn't know what the percentage is---but there's a lot of guys that wrestle for the WCW that are glad Sid Vicious is gone." Herd says he'll release Vicious the day after the May 19 SUPERBRAWL, where he is expected to go out on a losing note to El Gigante (Jorge Gonzales)."

Asked if Rhodes is going to return to the ring and get a shot at a fourth world title reign, Herd said, "No. Absolutely not. He's not returning to the ring. My deal with Dusty is he would be the talent coordinator and that's what he's going to be. We decided that his immense popularity would be best served by putting him on the air as a commentator. I'm sure a lot of people didn't think that went so successfully but we think it's the right way to go and we think he'll be an integral part of the major shows from here on."

Told many newsletter subscribers question why WCW does not go after WWF talent "while they're hot," Herd responded: "It's a matter of long-term outlook. You say 'while they're hot' and I don't know that any of us have that ability...Wade (Keller) may have that ability in his crystal ball to tell us who's gonna be hot and for how long. That's a joke, guys."

"I think you'd be right if you said we're conduits for some going up and by taking a look at the Sid Vicious situation. I do not want to be a conduit for guys coming back because that would be the worst of all worlds. It is a

(Continued on Page 2)

"We are the only major league promotion which recognizes the existence of these guys (newsletters) and tolerates their inaccuracies."

---JIM HERD

MATWATCH

Page 2/Vol. 4, No. 17/April 29-May 5

Great American Fans Jam II

HERD ADDRESSES TALENT, NEWSLETTERS

(Continued from Page 1)

business decision on our part to limit the wrestlers that we take from the WWF. I don't know whether we could have been successful or not but we certainly could have afforded to have bought Hulk Hogan from Vince McMahon." (In 1989, WCW reportedly laid out a \$4.5 million offer to attract Hogan, who rejected it.)

Herd was questioned about negotiations which eventually failed to snare Ted DiBiase and Bret Hart from the WWF (WCW later rejected Tully Blanchard at the time Arn Anderson made his return from Titan) and the losses of Ricky Steamboat and Mike Rotunda. "Mike Rotunda is an exceptional wrestler and I like him very much personally. But Mike Rotunda is going to be a mid-card guy that helps you program the rest of the deal. Ricky Steamboat, very frankly, passed up a very large contract because we wouldn't travel his wife. I didn't want to do that, so now, he's with the WWF. And I might add, we didn't draw a lot with Ricky Steamboat (in a 1989 series vs. Ric Flair). You have to look at things from a business standpoint."

On the subject of where the next generation of wrestling talent will come, Herd was outlined the current scenario which sees few surviving independents and regional territories. "I think probably Titan Sports and WCW are going to have to address it at some point. I know you gentlemen are familiar with how long it's taken for Jorge Gonzales (El Gigante) to start to become a legitimate wrestler in his own right. And I think you'd be less than honest if you didn't say that is starting to happen after a lot of time and a lot of patience. Reaction to the fans is as much of this business as the action in the ring. That's the one thing you can't learn in the gym."

"I've thought seriously about trying to fund a return of the regionals as a kind of farm system and maybe that's the way to go. But I don't know if it would work business-wise, because you can't attract the national advertiser if you don't have a national package to offer him. That makes financing of regionals very costly. But in talking with Dusty Rhodes, we are looking at the limited training grounds that exist and there are a number of options that we can't discuss at this point, obviously.... future plans that may surprise all of you."

On newsletters, Herd commented: "I'd like to know who's giving 'em the information out of my office. I obviously don't care for the sheets. I can't join 'em, so I tolerate 'em. I figured we might as well give them a night on the 900 line to increase their subscriptions. But some poor, unfortunate soul's going to get fired sometime for giving them information." Asked why he will not give journalists direct access to wrestlers for interviews, Herd said: "Because they're not privy to all of the discussion and decision-making that goes on within our office and many times, the information they have is wrong. I have a volume to document all the inaccuracies you guys have had. But obviously, the metamorphosis of wrestling has changed over the years to a great degree. I had lunch with Mr. (former NWA president Sam) Muchnick this week and even he admits the business has changed. I think our fans understand this and they tolerate that. To the same degree, that's why I tolerate the sheets."

(Next week: Jim Herd addresses the problems attracting crowds in the arenas, his feelings on adding a light heavyweight division and his and Turner Broadcasting's long-term commitment to pro wrestling.)

Premieres June 2

ROSS DEBUTS SUNDAY NIGHT TALKFEST

ATLANTA---TBS/WCW wrestling anchor Jim Ross will premiere a weekly Sunday night radio wrestling talk show beginning June 2.

THE JIM ROSS SHOW will air from 9-10 p.m. (EDT) on WSB-AM in Atlanta, the South's oldest radio station, a 50,000-watt outlet which reaches 37 states in the East and Midwest and Canada during evening hours.

WSB program manager Bob Greene says the station is "happy to have a personality as well-known as Ross with the nation's wrestling fans."

The Cox Broadcasting station is a news/talk outlet. The ROSS format is expected to mix viewer call-in questions with guests from WCW and mainline sports figures with wrestling interests. Atlanta Falcons All-Pro star Bill Fralic has been mentioned as an early guest.

Ross will promote the debut on several of WSB's other talk programs. The series will follow THE LARRY MUNSON SHOW, a three-hour sports talkfest with the University of Georgia and Falcons play-by-play announcer. The call-in number will be 1-800-WSB-TALK.

Does Video Commentary

CORNY REJECTS BID FOR WCW SATURDAYS

CHARLOTTE NC---Jim Cornette has turned down a bid to return as color commentator of WCW SATURDAY NIGHT on TBS and will focus on a new role as producer of the Ladies Professional Wrestling Association broadcasts.

Cornette, as reported three weeks ago, was pitched a chance to work in an angle at CLASH OF THE CHAMPIONS XV in June, where he would turn on former Midnight Express member Bobby Eaton. The veteran manager refused the proposal and was told an offer would be standing for him return to the WCW Saturday broadcasts.

Reached at his Charlotte home last Thursday, Cornette said: "Probably the only way I would consider it is if they would let me do that and continue on the LPWA show but they're not going to do that. I'm having too much fun doing the ladies' show now." Cornette told his side of the Midnight Express splitup and his departure from WCW on WVEU-TV's SATURDAY NIGHT SUPERSTARS April 20 (see THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES).

Cornette has been in Atlanta doing voiceovers for a series of three LPWA videos to be released this summer.

MATWATCH

Page 3 / Vol. 4, No. 17
April 29-May 5



(LUCHA LIBRE) - [Last Week]: Aguila Solitaria/Ciclón Ramirez/El Pantera

II d. Comando Ruso/El Espectro Jr./El Espectro de Ultratumba 2 straight falls; Eddie Guerrero/Kato Kung Lee 1/El Antifaz d. Javier Llanes/Kung Fu/El Supremo 1 2-3; El Solar 1/El Volador/El Angel Azteca d. Jerry Estrada/El Egipcio/Gargola el Sultan 2-3 by 3rd fall DQ when Egipcio unmasks Solar; Konnan el Barbaro/Octagon/La Fiera d. El Satanico/Mascara Ano Dos Mil/Pierroth Jr. 2 straight when Cien Caras runs in to save brother Mascara when Konnan rips at mask. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

[2 Wks. Ago]: Mascarita Sagrada/Solitaria/Octagon Cito d. Espectro Jr./Piratita Morgan/El Pequeno Cobarde 2 straight; Herodes/El Gran Sheik/Sultan Gargola d. Mogur/Huracan Sevilla/Javier Cruz 2-3; (CLIP) Egipcio on Coahlua ranch; Atlantis/Pirata Morgan/Mascara Sagrada d. Egipcio/Dos Mil/Universo Dos Mil 2-3; El Panico/Chicano Power Jr. d. El Felino/El Solar II 2-3; Octagon d. El Satanico 2 straight. RESTHOLD.

(ALL-JAPAN PRO) - [4/1]: Masanobu Fuchi/Akira Taue d. Toshia-ki Kawada/Tsuyoshi Kikuchi; (CLIP) Doug Furnas d. Texas Terminator Ross; Jumbo Tsuruta d. Cactus Jack; Danny Spivey/Stan Hansen d. Mitsuha Misawa/Kenta Kobashi. RESTHOLD.

[4/8]: Dynamite Kid/Johnny Smith d. Kawada/Kikuchi; Misawa d. Johnny Ace; Kobashi d. Hoss; Tsuruta d. Taue. POWERSLAM.

[4/15]: Hansen d. Misawa; Spivey d. Taue; Tsuruta d. Kawada; [ALL-ASIAN TAG TITLE] Smith/Kid d. Kikuchi/Kobashi to win belts. POWERSLAM.

(SOUTH ATLANTIC) - Tommy Seabolt double DQ vs. Vince Torelli as each shoves ref; American G.I. d. Terry Thomas; New Fantastics d. Robert Fuller/Sam Houston by DQ when Fuller taped Bobby Fulton's feet to bottom rope; Ivan Koloff d. Jimmy White; Chris Chavis d. Nazi Stormtrooper. POWERSLAM.

(WWF/SYN) - [CHALLENGE]: Davey Boy Smith d. Brooklyn Brawler; Orient Express d. Dale Wolfe/Jim Evans; Ted DiBiase d. Stephan DeLeon; Ricky Steamboat d. Tom Stone; Barbarian d. Scott Allen; Ultimate Warrior d. Rick Martel by countout. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

[SUPERSTARS]: Big Bossman d. Pex Whatley; (UPDATE) Sherri Martel tries to lure Andre into hiring her as his manager. Andre refuses & spansks her, then has a beer; Undertaker d. Larry Luce & puts him in body bag; Jim Duggan d. Genius Poffo; (FUNERAL PARLOR) Roddy Piper & Virgil take Ted DiBiase/Scary Sherri wrestling buddies & slam them in wooden coffin; Curt Hennig d. Randy Taylor; Rockers d. Barry O/Bill Lucas; Jake Roberts d. Earthquake by DQ when Jake tied in ropes & Jimmy Hart ties up ref. Tenta aftershocks Damien and apparently kills him. Camera cuts to Sean Mooney as splash occurs; (IRS) Irwin R. Shyster calls for another audit. DRAW-PLUS.

(LPWA) - [LPWA TITLE] Sindee Paradise d. Lady X by DQ when X won't quit battering Sindee. Reggie Bennett saves. X retains belt; Comrade Orga d. Allison Royal; Bambi/Malaya Hosaka d. Candi Divine/Rusty Thomas; Medusa Miceli d. Alma Alvarez; (LOUISVILLE SLUGGER) Jim Cornette w. Queen & His Court. Queen has Norman's rabbit Harvey. Queen renames rabbit "Harve the Marv." Norm chases Court but Queen holds onto rabbit. DRAW.

(USWA/SYN) - [CHALLENGE]: Night Train Jackson d. Steven Dane; Danny Davis/Terry Garvin d. El Grande Pistolero/Steve Austin; [TEXAS TITLE] Eric Embry d. Bill Dundee to regain belt when

Sweet Georgia Brown tosses liquid in Bill's face; [SOUTHERN TITLE/STREET MATCH] Jeff Jarrett d. Tom Prichard but Tom decks Jeff w.

chain after & hangs him. Tom then bashes

ref Tony Falk w. Tojo's kendo stick. RESTHOLD.

[BEST OF CHAMPIONSHIP]: Dundee d. Sgt. O'Reilly; (PIPKIN BLDG.) Austin/J.C. Ice d. Uptown Bruno/Dundee; Austin/Prichard d. Tom Kelly/T.D. Steel; (PIPKIN/S. TITLE) Jarrett d. Prichard to regain belt; Eddie Gilbert d. Scorpion; (PIPKIN) Gilbert d. Embry; Embry d. Mickey Jay; (ANGLE) Embry piledrives John L. Gilliam from second rope. Eddie runs out and chases Embry/Prichard; Texas Hangmen d. Davis/Jackson. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(PRO WRESTLING '91) - John Michaels/R.D. Swain d. Eddie Sweat/Mad Dog Joe; Pestus d. Cowboy Dalton; (5-STAR) Johnny Mantel d. Mark Sutton; (CLASSIC/CALGARY 1972) Cuban Assassin/Barabbas d. Sandy Scott/Tom Stanton; Brodie Chase d. Mr. X; (INTL) Music video review of Riki Choshu; Chic Donovan d. M-16; Brute Force d. Tim Strong/The Rebel. RESTHOLD.

(AWA: LOOKING BACK) - Crusher/Baron Von Raschke d. Big John Studd/Jerry Blackwell; Nick Bockwinkel d. Wahoo McDaniel by DQ; Greg Gagne/Jim Brunzell d. Road Warriors by DQ. DRAW.

(IWCCW) - Curly Moe d. Davis Jay; (From SPAIN) Pink Panther d. Sensation; Big Bad Stranger d. G.Q. Madison; Ivan & Scott Putski d. Billion \$ Babies; (WORLD CLASS TITLE) Kevin Von Erich d. Butcher; (PRESS CONF.) Bill Apter w. Ray Oddyssey. BOMB.

(WWF/USA) - [PRIME TIME]: {UPDATE} Undertaker-Warrior coffin angle; Berserker d. Jim Colhep; (TUGBOAT'S CABIN) Tug teaches Bobby Heenan sea shanties. Crab bites Bobby through porthole, Heenan gets sprayed; Steamboat d. Louie Spicolli; (VIDEO) Curt Hennig in "Nobody Does It Better;" O Ex d. Evans/Wolfe; Davey Boy d. Brawler; (SEG) Alfred Hayes defends England when Hennig insults; Power & Glory d. Rockers by countout but Slick drop-kicked, decked after; (SEG) Brutus Beefcake discusses accident dent & recovery, shows skull X-rays; (BARBER SHOP) Beefcake drops snake on Earthquake; (SEG) Brutus clips fan while barber shop quartet sings; Undertaker d. DeLeon, stuffs him in body bag; (SEG) Irwin R. Shyster decries phony deductions; Barbarian d. Tito Santana; Duggan d. Poffo; (FINALE) Heenan walks off when Brutus' quartet sings "Let Me Call You Weasel." DRAW.

(WCW/TBS) - [POWER HOUR]: Young Pistols d. Lou Fabiano/Dave Johnson; (6-MAN) Junkyard Dog/Tommy Rich/Ricky Morton d. Don Allen/Rip Rogers/Joe Cezana; Barry Windham d. Scott Allen; Lex Luger d. Pat Rose; (TOKYO DOME/INGP TAG TITLE) Steiners d. Hiroshi Hase/Kensuke Sasaki to win belts; (WNN) Gordon Solie w. clips of Brian Pillman/El Gigante vs. Horsemen saga; (WCW TV TITLE) Anderson d. Tim Horner to keep belt. DRAW.

[SATURDAY NIGHT]: Vader d. Rogers; (SUPERBRAWL CONTROL) Gordon announces entire May 19 card; Dustin Rhodes d. Magnum Force II; Big Josh d. Jim Corbett; Ron Simmons d. Snake Watson; Steiners d. Joe Cruz/Rose; (MISSY'S MANOR) Nikita Koloff guests; (6-MAN) JYD/Morton/Rich d. Mike Thor/Randy Tatum/Greg Sawyer; (DANGER ZONE) Paul E. w. Luger in Meadowlands locker room; Sid Vicious d. Lynn Fields; (TOKYO DOME) End of Flair-Fujinami match & news conference where Flair reclaims belt; Pillman d. Windham by DQ when Arn saves Barry from package. Bobby Eaton saves Brian; Sting/Luger d. Jeff Stone/Lou Fabiano. Other winner: El Gigante.

SCALE: PINFALL! - Must See. PILEDRIVER - Excellent. POWERSLAM - Good. DRAW - Average. RESTHOLD - Fair. BOMB - Poor. PLUS - Midscale rating.

MATWATCH

Page 4

Vol. 4, No. 17/April 29-May 5

[MAIN EVENT]: Josh d. Hacksaw Higgins; Pistols d. Rogers/Stone; Zbyszko d. Bronson; (6-MAN) Sting/El/Pillman d. Flair/Windham/Anderson; (CLIPS) Luger-Koloff saga; (HANDICAP) Koloff d. Larry Santo/Rick Stockhauser; Tom Zenk d. Brian Carr; One-Man Gang d. JYD by using chain but Gang accidentally 747s Teddy Long; (TOKYO DOME) Flair-Fujinami cut off because of blood; (HEROES & FRIENDS) Dusty Rhodes w. Ric Flair on Fujinami; Black Bart d. Joe Cruz; Luger d. Thor. DRAW.

(USWA/WMC) - Prichard d. Chris Frazier using loaded boot; Jarrett d. Pistolero; (PIPKIN/CHAIN MATCH) Embry d. Gilbert when Eric sprays green mist in Eddie's eyes; (PIPKIN) Jarrett/Robert Fuller vs. Prichard/Austin no contest when 10-man melee erupts; Steve Keirn d. Austin by DQ when Texas Hangmen run in & the 3 stuff piledrive Keirn on floor. Fuller battles the heels until Prichard superkicks Robert with loaded boot. Fuller juices; (PIPKIN) J.C. Ice d. Uptown Bruno w. assist from Hangman Killer; Davis/Gilbert d. Hangmen by DQ when Prichard/Austin run in. In both falls, locker rooms empty. DRAW.

(WCW/SYN) - [WCW PRO]: Rhodes/Morton d. Chuck Coates/Rob Morgan; (SUPERBRAWL C.C.); Josh d. Jeff Sward; Vader d. Mark Merro; (TOKYO DOME) End of Flair-Fujinami; Simmons d. Terry Mohl; (LARRY'S LEGENDS) Rhodes guests; One-Man Gang d. Keith Hart but El Gigante saves when Kevin Sullivan/Teddy Long stretch Keith; Sting/Luger d. Magnum Force. RESTHOLD.

[WORLD WIDE]: Vicious d. Merro; Steiners d. State Patrol; (TOKYO DOME) Flair-Fujinami; Simmons d. Terry Bronson; Gang d. Joey Maggs; Freebirds d. Hart/Jamie McKinnon; (SUPERBRAWL C.C.); Sting/Luger d. Coates/Kevin Dalton. RESTHOLD.

(WWF/NBC) - [SNME]: Warrior d. Sgt. Slaughter by DQ when Col. Mustafa/Sheik Adnan/Undertaker run in. Hogan tries to save but Undertaker won't sell bash w. belt by Hulk, who finally chases him; (WWF TAG TITLE) Nasty Boys d. Bushwhackers w. illegal leverage; (20-MAN BATTLE ROYAL) Hennig d. Greg Valentine at end to win; Bret Hart double countout vs. DiBiase when the 2 brawl outside as Piper chases Sherri w. broom; Mountie d. Tito Santana using cattle prod. RESTHOLD-PLUS.



wiped with the wrong hand." 4. Joe Pedicino/Cornette, LPWA: (JP) "I'm right down the middle on this one." (JC) "If you don't stay right down the middle, you bump on both sides." 5. Pedicino/Cornette, LPWA: (JP) "I'm behind America's Team all the way." (JC) "That's right, Pedicino. You're ALL behind." 6. Vince McMahon, PTW, on Alfred Hayes: "The WWF's answer to the Loch Ness Monster." 7. Bobby Heenan, PTW, on Tugboat's life preserver: "Looks like a toilet seat with handles." 8. Cornette, WVEU, on station lobby: "It looks like the green room of an acid flashback or the waiting room for the after-life." 9. Cornette, WVEU: "I feel like Oliver Douglas on the set of GREEN ACRES." 10. Boni Blackstone/Cornette, WVEU, on Corny insulting Pedicino: (BB) "That's my husband you're talking about!" (JC) "You have my sympathies."

11. Heenan, PTW, on Beefcake's barbering: "Nice haircut if you're going to the chair." 12. Pedicino/Cornette, LPWA: (JP) "She's throwing her on her back and she's throwing her on her front." (JC) "Sounds like she's doing the Hokey Pokey." 13. Tom Prichard, WMC: "There ain't a whole lot of distance between a pat on the back and a kick in the pants." 14. Roddy Piper, WWF-SU, to Paul Bearer: "One more chin there and we've got a runway for a 747." 15. Sean Mooney, WWF-SU: "The Undertaker appears to be the advance man for The Grim Reaper." 16. Diamond Dallas Page, WCW PRO, on Big Josh: "Here's WCW's cross between Li'l Abner and Jethro Bodine." 17. Piper, WWF: "The last time I was afraid, it was 10-foot purple with four arms." 18. Piper, WWF, to Bearer: "A little sunshine would be in order." 19. Page, WCW, on Vader: "He flattened that guy flatter than the Young Pistols' girlfriends." 20. Page, WCW, on Big Josh's finish: "Zbyszko once called this the flying fanny from hell."

21. Blackstone, WVEU, to Samuel F. Kent: "We have a lot more exciting things to talk about than our hygiene habits." 22. Pedicino/Cornette, LPWA, on America's Team: (JP) "They have been powdered. They have been oiled." (JC) "Sounds like a souffle to me."

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. Cornette, WVEU: "It's still the NWA. WCW is just another name some people in suits thought up." 2. Cornette, WVEU, on he & Stan Lane leaving WCW: "If you can't have the spot you deserve, why sully the reputation?" 3. Wade Keller, GREAT AM FANS JAM: "Jushin Liger vs. Brian Pillman will draw 10 times more money any day than Tugboat vs. Warlord." 4. Heenan, PTW: "I'm going to spend the weekend at the mansion down in Palm Beach with my friend Ted. We're gonna do a little offshore drilling." 5. Liz Poffo, PTW, on Randy Savage: "No matter what---I just love that man." 6. Curt Hennig, PTW: "I presume you're an honest man, McMahon." 7. Alfred Hayes, PTW, on Hennig: "He's an oaf."

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - 1. Cornette, WVEU, to Kent: "Does your undertaker know you got up today?" 2. Heenan, PTW, to Hennig: "Those leather pants...do they have a drawstring or elastic?" 3. Hennig, PTW: "The one thing people want to know about Vince McMahon is: is that hair real?" 4. Cornette, LPWA: "Heidi Lee Morgan...wasn't she a panelist on THE GONG SHOW?"

NICKNAMES OF THE WEEK - 1. VINCE McMANNEQUIN (Hennig on Vince). 2. SLUGBOAT (Heenan on Tugboat). 3. FISHNET (Heenan on Vince's hair). 4. FLATHEAD (Roddy Piper on Genius). 5. GOMEZ (Piper on Paul Bearer). 6. THE BO JACKSON OF THE WWF (Ted DiBiase on Piper).

BEST PICTURES - 1. WWF-SU, Sean Mooney's squinting reax to Earthquake squashing Damien. 2. WWF-SU, Percy's reactions to Piper's insults. 3. WCW, Vader spewing steam in Rogers' face.

BLOOPER AWARDS - 1. Michael St. John, USWA: "Demolition, Incorporated," for Skandor Akbar's DEVASTATION. 2. St. John, USWA: "Superstar Billy is the new Texas heavyweight champion." (Graham or Dundee?) 3. Pedicino, LPWA: "Misty LEE."

PASSWORD OF THE WEEK - 1. St. John, USWA: "VOLUPTUOUS." "J.C. Ice Baby's running talents are more VOLUPTUOUS than his wrestling talents." 2. St. John, WMC: "DAPPERNESS." "Maybe it was the DAPPERNESS of the manager."

WORST SINGER - Fred Ottman, PTW: "My Bonnie."

BEST SONG - Quartet, PTW: "Let Me Call You Weasel."

MATWATCH

Page 5/Vol. 4, No. 17

April 29-May 5



BYE, BYE BRAVO: Scott Hudson will be wiping away tears. Dino Bravo has quit the WWF for unspecified reasons. Rick Martel has also missed recent dates for reasons unknown.

SNME IN BRIEF: The Bret Hart-Ted DiBiase match Saturday night was tremendous until the lackluster finish. Other than the reaction in Mark Callaway's eyes during the Warrior-Slaughter match, this was at best a so-so SNME.

HOGAN-TUG: I'm told not to read much into the Hogan-Tugboat shoving affair during the battle royal. It's a nice tease for a possible series but I'm told if anything happens at all, it would simply be for a future SNME match.

BUILDING WARS: WCW's July 27 date at the Oakland Coliseum has Vince McMahon again threatening to pull out of the place. Jim Herd told us Saturday night his group has to do well in the June 14 date at the St. Louis Arena or possibly lose it.

THE END OF KIEL: Herd estimated a \$60,000 gate for the final night in the Kiel. He's plans to ask St. Louis legend Sam Muchnick to be a part of the first show in the Arena.

MONDAY NIGHT IN ATLANTA: An El Gigante/Brian Pillman vs. Terry Taylor/Larry Zbyszko match was among those taped for WCW at Center Stage. The shows were for May 11 and 18.

GREENVILLE GOODIES: The WCW MAIN EVENT taping in Greenville SC Wednesday night was to lead to the Flair-Eaton, Luger-Muta and Sting-Nikita matches on the June 12 CLASH OF THE CHAMPIONS. WME is now taped through June 9.

VIDEO VILLAINS: Expect to see a series of videos to debut The Desperados (Black Bart, Dutch Mantel, Randy Culley), whom I'm told will serve as comic relief for WCW.

THE RAPPER: And in the next couple of weeks, P.M. NEWS, the 400-pound rap artist, will premiere on WCW.

MISSY LIVE: Missy Hyatt will have a return night live on the WRESTLING HOTLINE May 12 from 7-8:30 p.m. (EDT).

STOMPING AWAY: THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION in Jacksonville offered a top story on the LIFESTYLES section about WCW's new STOMP COLLECTION trading cards, premiered at a press conference in the Gateway City April 18.

RUN-IN CITY: That was the case Saturday on the USWA/WWC show. Eric Embry had four run-ins, Steve Keirn "injured" with a piledriver and both falls of the time duration match ending in locker room empties to preview Monday night's TEXAS BRAWL.

MONDAY IN MEMPHIS: The BRAWL saw Bill Dundee/Eddie Gilbert/Robert Fuller/Jeff Jarrett/Danny Davis vs. Texas Hangmen/Embry/Tom Prichard/Steve Austin in a bunkhouse-style match.

OTHER MEMPHIS: Jarrett put up the Southern belt vs. Austin, Gilbert-Embry in a Texas death match, Fuller-Prichard in a "stud" match, Davis-Hangman Psycho and Dundee-Hangman Killer.

COMING HOME: The USWA show May 12 in Lexington TN will mark Eddie's first hometown appearance in at least a year.

LPWA SPLITS: Heidi Lee Morgan and Misty Blue Simmes are splitting as America's Team and will feud through the summer.

PPV PLANS: Tor Berg plans his first LPWA pay-per-view on or around Sept. 15, probably headlined by a Terri Power-Lady X title match. Some mixed matches will also be on the card.

POWER LINE: Terri's clothesline is now called the Power-line and if marketed right, she appears to have the most potential of being a breakaway star for this group. But Reggie Bennett, embroiled in the current feud with Lady X for the belt, is said not to be happy that she won't win it.

VIDEO VENUES: The three LPWA videos will be in the stores by July 15 and I'm told Jim Cornette kept Joe Pedicino in stitches with his unpredictable rejoinders.

SWA ON PARADE: Larry Malenko's SWA drew 300 for a show April 20. Jerry Vining d. Lebanese Assassin for the SWA belt and Greenpeace d. Bahamian Stud for the SWA Southern title.

THE UIW TODAY: Craig Johnson sat in on mike for Axel Rotton's UIW shows. A few worth watching in that group: Kevin (The Truth) Casey, manager, said to be "golf's answer to Jim Cornette" (his weapon is a golf club); Neal Superior, about 6-4, 260; and Rosta Voodoomon, who has an occult gimmick.

BROKEN AXEL: Axel hurt a shoulder in the main event of the taping. The match may have to be reshot for the May 4 debut on WBAL/Baltimore (1:30 a.m.). UIW tapes again May 17.

CHECKING UP: Sources tell us Vince brought in officials from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals before doing the Earthquake-Damien angle to demonstrate the bag-switching.

UNCLE PERCY: Mr. Bearer---and I promise you this is true---toured Washington for the first time weekend before last and, on request, was taken to Arlington National Cemetery.

WHAT, NO RING?: That situation with no ring at a WCW show in Rock Hill SC has two stories. One: Mark White, in charge of the rings, forgot the show. Two, White claims he wasn't told to have a ring in Rock Hill and tried to provide written proof the date was omitted from his list. Interesting.

ANOTHER RING: LPWA manager Jonathan Blue, scheduled for a major angle at an upcoming taping, was told he has to appear as an opening-match jobber for WCW on the same night as the taping. If he doesn't show for WCW, he's reportedly been told to forget about supplying rings for four or five other shows. Expect LPWA honcho Tor Berg to get involved in this.

ANY SURPRISE?: Max Andrews said to be irritated at Eric Embry's booking for the Dallas tapings. Recently, Embry only skedded six matches and the crew had to get four shows (ESPN, 2 syndies and Dallas local) from that. That's why the ESPN and syndie shows look like carbons and references to SUPERCARD (the ESPN show) are heard on the syndie shows.

ANOTHER PICKUP: Steve Austin has been signed by WCW as Stunning Steve and will likely have Veronica as a manager (she's the one involved last year in a marriage proposal angle with Scotty the Body in Portland). Dusty's still reviewing tape on her.

NIGHTMARES: One woman calling the FANS JAM told Herd her 8-year-old had nightmares from the Warrior-Undertaker angle.

**WWF CONTINUES
WINNING STREAK**

Showing strength in its move to a new Tuesday night slot, WWF PRIME TIME WRESTLING continues to dominate the top of the weekly Nielsen cable ratings, having captured two straight weeks among wrestling shows.

Last week, PTW rolled to a 3.2 rating and 5.1 percent share of audience, adding to a win for its April 16 episode with a 3.0/5.0.

ALL-AMERICAN WRESTLING was a close runner-up April 21 with a 3.1 and 8.5 per cent share.

Both TBS' WCW SATURDAY NIGHT and WCW MAIN EVENT posted increases last weekend over the previous week's efforts. WCW was up 8% to a 2.7/6.6 while WME jumped the same percentage to a 2.6/5.5.

WCW POWER HOUR finally slipped to its lowest numbers in eight weeks with an April 20th showing of 1.6/6.3. The previous week, POWER HOUR had cracked a 2 rating for the fifth time in seven weeks.

CABLE

Week Ending April 23	Rating	Share	Total Homes
WWF PRIME TIME (USA 4/23)	3.2	5.1	1.77 million
WWF ALL-AMERICAN (USA 4/21)	3.1	8.5	1.72 million
WCW SATURDAY NIGHT (TBS 4/20)	2.7	6.6	1.53 million
WCW MAIN EVENT (TBS 4/21)	2.6	5.5	1.47 million
WCW POWER HOUR (TBS 4/20)	1.6	6.3	905,600

Week Ending April 16	Rating	Share	Total Homes
WWF PRIME TIME (USA 4/16)	3.0	5.0	1.66 million
WCW SATURDAY NIGHT (TBS 4/13)	2.5	5.6	1.42 million
WWF ALL-AMERICAN (USA 4/14)	2.5	7.0	1.39 million
WCW MAIN EVENT (TBS 4/14)	2.4	4.9	1.36 million
WCW POWER HOUR (TBS 4/13)	2.0	9.3	1.13 million

**MATWATCH
SUBSCRIPTIONS**

U.S. RATES UNTIL JUNE 1

\$5 for 5 issues, \$10 for 11 issues, \$15 for 16 issues.

U.S. RATES AFTER JUNE 1

\$6 for 5 issues, \$12 for 11 issues, \$18 for 16 issues.

(CANADA) \$6 for 5 issues, \$12 for 11, \$18 for 16.
(OVERSEAS) \$9 for 5 issues, \$18 for 11, \$27 for 16.

(BONUS OFFER) You receive one bonus issue for every 5-issue gift set you give or for every 5-issue referral subscription we receive.

CHECK, CASH or MONEY ORDER to: MATWATCH, 16 ROBIN HOOD LANE, JACKSON TN 38305

Please print name and address clearly on each order.

Recovering in Georgia

**"MR. G" TAKES ONE
ON THE ROPES**

WAYCROSS GA---The 1988 MATWATCHER OF THE YEAR Dan (Mr. G) Gibson is recovering from a mild stroke in Memorial Hospital in this Southeast Georgia city.

Gibson, who took MATWATCH editor/publisher Steve Beverly to his first card in 1966, had fallen from a wooden dock two weeks ago before being diagnosed with the stroke.

The 66-year-old MATWATCHer was moved to a private room last Sunday. In more than 40 years of following wrestling, Gibson has seen the industry change from days when Gordon Solie's old CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING FROM FLORIDA was one of the first TV shows available in his region. He still rates Jack Brisco as the greatest pure wrestler ever to hold the NWA world belt and Tim Woods as the best never to win it. His favorite all-time wrestling announcer is former Georgia commentator Ed Capral.

Visiting Gibson last week, Beverly told him of Sid Vicious' decision to leave WCW. "They haven't lost much, as far as I'm concerned," Gibson said without any hesitation. "If you bought Sid Vicious for what he was worth and sold him for what he thought he was worth, you'd have a lot of money."

Gibson faces weeks of physical therapy for impairment on his left side from the stroke but is communicating well and may be able to leave the hospital this week.

(NOTE TO SUBSCRIBERS: I know the difficulty in plunking down 19 cents for a post card or 29 cents for a letter. But Dan Gibson is the reason there is a MATWATCH today. And I'd like you to join me in a massive get-well campaign for this wonderful man. It will speed his recovery.

Please drop him a brief card or letter at this address:
DAN GIBSON, 2301 DOROTHY ST., WAYCROSS GA 31501.

TV TEMPO

(Continued from Page 4)

ALL-CLICHE TEAM - 1. Kent, WVEU: "...sharper than a tack."
2. Pedicino, LPWA: "...what's good for the goose is good for the gander."

BOO AWARD - Heenan, PTW, on Brutus Beefcake: "I thought he had quit the World Wrestling Federation to play hockey. Some

body told me he had a faceoff."

MATWATCH
16 ROBIN HOOD LANE
JACKSON TN 38305

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
JACKSON TN
PERMIT NO. 50

David Skolnick
221 Stowe Ave./#A-1
Troy, NY 12180

7/15/91

FIRST CLASS MAIL